

think that is needed, but what we are doing is raising the sales tax to give property owners in my area and in South Omaha a ridiculous amount of \$60 to \$80. And I have talked to several people there and they said that they would rather go back to the sales tax on food because at least there they got \$112 back for a family of four in a rebate or refund check if they didn't pay any income tax. So I don't think that we would like to have a one cent increase in the sales tax to get back \$60 or \$80. I think the bill in itself should be indefinitely postponed. I think if we do not get 25 votes for the amendment, then we should try a kill motion on the bill and perhaps try to come up with something better. But what we are doing now is absolutely ridiculous and I think the majority of the people would agree with me that we are raising the sales tax to give big business a \$1,000 and it frightens me to think that if you have five or six business buildings, or whatever, in Omaha and there are people that do have that, you can have six or seven restaurants in Omaha and get six and seven thousand dollars off on your property tax for a one cent increase in the sales tax, and that, I believe, is ridiculous. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Warner is next, but may I introduce some guests of Senator Labeledz from Omaha. They are under the south balcony. They are Father Charles Broderson of St. Stanislaus Parish of Omaha and Father Merwold, Director of Catholic Social Services in Omaha. Would you please stand and be recognized. Thank you, gentlemen, for visiting the Legislature. Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I am going to use the opportunity of adopting an amendment to make a couple of comments. And since the issue has been framed in a fashion that doesn't happen to include any of the positions that I am taking or reflects my vote, I thought maybe I better make sure that my position is expressed because it doesn't fit the descriptions that others have given for why people are voting the way they are voting. I am as interested historically in property tax relief as anyone come. But I have about come to the conclusion that there really isn't probably a very likely way to increase sales, income tax and do property tax relief as we seem to talk about it, whatever that is. And I have come full circle or I am very comfortable arguing that there is a more equitable way to